

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claims 1-34 (cancelled).

35. (new) A double-wrap band brake assembly to be used for braking a rotating member fitted in a double-wrap brake band, the double-wrap brake band comprising:

an annular middle band with a friction surface formed on an inner periphery thereof;

a pair of annular outer bands which are coupled to the middle band in a state that respective free ends thereof are opposed to a free end of the middle band, and which have respective friction surfaces on inner peripheries thereof;

an anchor bracket secured to a working end of either one of the middle band and the outer bands and latched to a main body casing; and

an apply bracket secured to a working end of the other of the middle band and the outer bands for receiving a force from an actuator in a direction of constriction of the middle band and the outer bands,

wherein the middle band is provided with a first friction material forming a first friction surface from a

portion of the middle band near the apply bracket to a predetermined intermediate portion thereof, the first friction surface having a first dynamic friction coefficient and working for forming a lubricant film, and wherein the middle band is provided with a second friction material forming a second friction surface from the predetermined intermediate portion to a vicinity of a coupling portion of the middle band with the outer bands, the second friction surface having a second dynamic friction coefficient larger than the first dynamic friction coefficient and working for removing the lubricant film.

36. (new) A double-wrap brake assembly according to claim 35, wherein the middle band is provided with an axially extended groove between the first friction material and the second friction material.

37. (new) A double-wrap brake assembly according to claim 35, wherein, between the first friction material and the axially extended groove, the middle band is provided with a slanting surface for introducing lubricant onto the first friction surface.

38. (new) A double-wrap brake assembly according to claim 37, wherein the middle band is provided with a second axially extended groove for removing the lubricant film in the vicinity of the coupling portion of the middle band with the outer bands.

39. A double-wrap brake assembly according to claim 36, wherein the middle band is provided with a second axially extended groove for removing the lubricant film in the vicinity of the coupling portion between the middle band and the outer bands.

40. (new) A double-wrap brake assembly according to claim 35, wherein a thickness of the first friction material is smaller than that of the second friction material.

41. (new) A double-wrap brake assembly according to claim 36, wherein said second friction material is formed with a lubricant reservoir in the vicinity of the coupling portion between the middle band and the outer bands.

42. (new) A double-wrap brake assembly according to claim 35, wherein said second friction material is formed

with a lubricant reservoir in the vicinity of the coupling portion between the middle band and the outer bands.

43 (new) A double-wrap brake assembly according to claim 36, wherein, between the first friction material and the axially extended groove, the middle band is provided with a slanting surface for introducing lubricant onto the first friction surface.

44. (new) A double-wrap brake assembly according to claim 33, wherein the middle band is provided with a second axially extended groove for removing the lubricant film in the vicinity of the coupling portion of the middle band with the outer bands.

45. (new) A double-wrap brake assembly according to claim 36, wherein a thickness of the first friction material is smaller than that of the second friction material.

46. (new) A double-wrap brake assembly according to claim 36, wherein said second friction material is formed with a lubricant reservoir in the vicinity of the coupling portion between the middle band and the outer bands.